

COVID cases

We had 23 new cases in the seven days to May 20. The infection rate is 7.2/100,000 across the NHS Highland area:11.6/100,000 in Argyll and Bute and 5.5/100,000 in North Highland.

We have no patients in hospital with COVID-19.

There have been 169 recorded deaths in the NHS Highland area since the start of the pandemic: 98 in Highland and 71 in Argyll and Bute. These are deaths within 28 days of a confirmed positive test and represent no change for seven weeks.

Vaccination

We have vaccinated 73.8% of over 16 year olds with their first dose, compared to a Scottish average of 70.9%.

Clinics for 40-49 years olds have been scheduled. We try not to schedule clinics until supplies are confirmed, to avoid the risk of having to cancel at short notice. Unfortunately in some areas it can take a little longer to organise the staffing, locations and delivery of clinics and some areas may need to hold smaller clinics over more days because of logistical restrictions. Therefore, in a few areas clinics for people aged 40-49 will run into early June. This also allows us to 'mop up' anyone from previous cohorts who may not have been able to attend an appointment.

We understand people are anxious to receive their COVID vaccine and can reassure everyone that all areas within the NHS Highland board are allocated supplies on the same basis and at the same time. We remain slightly ahead of the national average for vaccination overall and expect most practices to conclude clinics for 40-49 year olds this week.

You can view progress on the national <u>vaccination programme online here.</u>

Feedback

If you have comments or queries please contact nhshighland.feedback@nhs.scot